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German Democratic Republic

FTD Abstract of

REPORT ON THE TRAINING SCHOOL FOR MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN MAGDEBURG. REPORT ON MEDICAL CARE IN THE GDR (4 pp; German; Date of information:)

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This document consists of carbon copies of two typewritten reports, one on the setup of the training school for medical personnel in Magdeburg and the other on medical care in the GDR.

1. The first report, two pages, gives a rather detailed description of the Magdeburg school. It lists the entrance requirements, cost of attendance, stipends given to students, statistics of this school and other similar schools in East Saxony, and also a short summary of the curriculum. There is also a list of the members of the faculty, giving some personal information and the political point of view of each.

2. The last two pages give some facts about medical care in the GDR. The first portion of the report deals with the number of physicians. It is stated that there is a serious shortage of them, amounting to 1,500-1,600 or about 40 percent of the total number of physicians required in peacetime. There is also a discussion on the difficulties which GDR physicians have in attending conferences and meetings outside the GDR, with the result that they are not aware of some of the new discoveries and advances made in the field of medicine. This situation is aggravated by the fact that practically no medical literature from other countries is available. Mention is also made of the fact that the situation in regard to medicinal supplies and drugs has become steadily worse in recent years. The supplies available for all medicinal preparations have decreased drastically, and items like disinfectants, soporifics, and laxatives cannot be had at all. The source is of the opinion that socialization of medicine in the GDR is imminent, citing a few facts to bear out his contention. The report ends with a short paragraph concerning the economic and pecuniary position of physicians in the GDR, which the source describes as better than that of the average GDR citizen.

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